

► **FREE**

"Your Mind and your
ass will follow"

Issue #69

Jan.30 to Feb 12, '90

Toronto's Anarchist Bi-Weekly **Ecomedia**

BULLETIN

Ecomedia, P.O. Box 915, Stn F, Toronto Ont. M4Y 2N9

All Material Is Anti-Copy right!

Don't Be a Weekend
Revolutionary—



Take your Politics to Work.



Industrial Workers of the World

Toronto Branch

760-3309

Ohio Prisoners Demand an End to Torture

DEATH FAST

Three prisoners in the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility (SOCF) are planning to begin a death fast starting February 14 if their demands are not met. The hunger strike centers around the well-documented beatings, harassment and torture received by prisoners in the J1 control unit of SOCF.

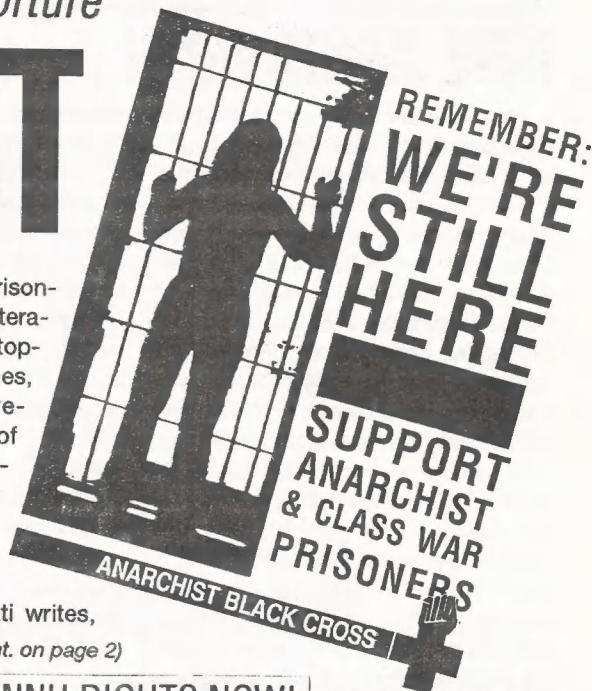
One of the three, John Perotti, is well known for his work as a union organizer within the walls. In 1988, approximately 400 prisoners from the SOCF made headlines when they petitioned for representation by the Industrial Workers of the World, a radical union controlled by its members from the shop-floor up. Their organizing efforts, based on the fact that they are public employees yet have none of the protection of applicable labour laws, was met with increased brutality, strip-searching, macing, fire-hosing and other attacks by the guards.

Perotti, Michael Day, and Sudun Swafford have put together a list of 13 demands which include: increased wages; the right to collective bargaining; the shut-down of the J-1 control

unit; allowing isolation prisoners personal property, literature and contact visits; stopping routine strip-searches, beatings, macing, fire-hosing and murders of prisoners by guards; adequate medical treatment; and due process for placement and retention in isolation.

"As you know," Perotti writes,

(cont. on page 2)



INNU RIGHTS NOW!

Activists Occupy for Innu Autonomy

(TORONTO) "You aren't that bunch of AN-rchists that conected themselves to the innu cause, are you?" Such was the greeting received by a womyn member of Innu Rights Now! upon entering (rather unwillingly) a squad car of Toronto's finest. Innu Rights Now! has been conducting bi-weekly occupations of government offices and consulates in solidarity with the Native People of Nitassinan

(Labrador and Eastern Quebec) for the past four months. The plan being that if the occupying forces of Canada feel they have the right to occupy Native land then we have the right to occupy their land (which is of course our land anyways). To date we have carried out 6 occupations. If you would like to get involved in working in solidarity with the Innu, call the Anarchist hotline.

(cont on page 2)

NEWS IN BRIEF

HOLLY FARMS BOYCOTT

You have the right to organize a union, sort of. Truck drivers at Holly Farms, which manufactures chickens, voted 211 to 30 in March, 1989 to affiliate with Teamster Local 391 in Kernersville, N.C. Holly Farms then transferred its trucking operations to normally rival Tyson, another chicken

producer, rather than allow the union. (People's Daily World 1-4-90.)

BANKS RESIST UNIONS

Bank of America supervisors are given a 22-page guide, "Preserving Your Right to Manage Union-Free." The guide gives supervisors such instructions on how to spot the first telltale signs of union organizing as: "Keep on the lookout for small groups of employees who are chatting together in out of the way places but scatter when a supervisor appears." Bank tellers in the USA average \$7 an hour, compared to \$11 an hour for unionized supermarket cashiers.

NAZI TRADITION CONTINUES

Hamburg is planning to deport 1500 Roma and Sinti (ethnic minorities who shared the fate of the Jews during Hitler's regime.) When some of the victims took refuge on the grounds of a former concentration camp and began a hunger strike, Hamburg police used violence to drive them out. This resulted in an antifascist and anti-racist march/demonstration in Neuengamme.

SHELL SABOTAGED

About 500 Shell gas stations have been sabotaged during the past four years in Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, the Netherlands, West Germany, West Berlin, Italy and Canada, to protest Shell's role as the largest foreign investor in South Africa. Shell makes enormous profits exporting coal from South Africa and importing fuel, lubricants and chemicals for weapons to the South African army and police, ignoring the United Nations' oil embargo. The Black majority are demanding the withdrawal of all foreign investors in order to isolate the racist regime.

INNU RIGHTS NOW! (Cont. from 1)

"The military are raping Mother Earth and they are raping our daughters," says Innu Rose Gregoire of the low-level flights which Canada is allowing its NATO allies to make over Nitassinan, an Innu homeland for over 9000 years situated on the Quebec/central Labrador peninsula. During the 1950s, development of mines and dams in the area forced the Innu to relocate onto permanent government settlements. These have no running water or sewage system, and all water must be hauled long distances.

A military base established in Nitassinan (Goose Bay) during WW2 was in the 80s redeveloped as a flight training centre. NATO flight training includes dogfights, bombing runs and simulated nuclear strikes, a total of 7500 flights in 1989. If Goose Bay is accepted by NATO, the flights will increase to 40,000 per year. The purpose of flying at such low levels is to remain undetected by radar; this entails flying as low as 100 metres, low enough to burn off the treetops with jet exhaust.

Innu culture has been irreparably altered by the low level flights. The sonic booms from the jets alter and inhibit the behaviour of all wildlife, causing decrease and threatening termination of reproductive behaviour of the caribou. The energy animals

expend trying to flee the sonic booms could make the difference between life and death. For the Innu, a permanent flight training centre would elevate the already high levels of suicide, alcoholism, prostitution, crime and family violence, all of which were unknown to them before white intervention. To intimidate them even further, the RCMP and wildlife officials have confiscated what little food they can find.

An environmental impact assessment done for the Innu confirms that environmental and cultural disaster are imminent. The defence department has sponsored a \$6 million assessment which claims that benefits to non Natives will outweigh the harm done to Natives; over 100 flaws in this report were found by a panel of 22 independent scientists.

Throughout the flight testing, the Innu have not stood idly by. Hundreds of people, mostly Innu women, have been arrested for nonviolent actions. Protest camps have been set up, and occupations of defence department property have been ongoing since the flights began. Nitassinan is not part of Canada, and therefore the Innu are being arrested for occupying their own land to protest aboriginal genocide.

It's Time to End *History*

The Globe and Mail has been a bit premature in proclaiming the End of History; so long as some people exploit others (the essence of the now-dominant capitalist system), armed conflict will continue. However, if we see history as the armed clash of conflicting ideologies, its end wouldn't be a bad idea. We could then get on with herstory.

It should be noted that, of the million or so years the human race has been around, only the last six thousand belong to the realm of history. Before that, an anarchistic society based on small tribes lived by hunting, gathering and later agriculture. On the basis of available evidence, it seems that food and other supplies were shared much more equitably than in modern society, and that wimmin had a fair amount of political influence. The rise of the state (initially to control the flowing of the

Nile) enabled a privileged minority to be freed from the daily tasks of essential production.

This minority formed male priesthoods who created and monopolized a written language, which scarcely anyone else had access to until the invention of the printing press in the 15th century, and used writing to record their version of the conquest of their ideologies over those of others. Among those defeated were the goddess-centered matriarchal societies. Even after the printing press, history was written mainly by men and dealt largely with military and political conquest, leaving social and intellectual conditions to be inferred from surviving literary and artistic works. There were a few welcome exceptions, such as Will and Ariel Durants' *History of Civilization* which gave social and artistic

pursuits equal prominence.

Although we obviously cannot return to the hunter-gatherer societies of the days of sparse population, or to the relative security provided by the crafts guilds of the middle ages, it seems obvious that some sort of renewed tribalism is the answer to the main social problem throughout history, concentration of wealth and power in a few hands. This transition must be made from the bottom upwards, by small groups of people banding together and taking more and more power over their own lives. As Dave Dellinger said in Toronto recently, we should live each day as if the revolution had already been won. If "herstoric" is a better word than "prehistoric" to refer to the days before the state was created and history was written, then it's time we moved towards its resurrection.

OHIO PRISONERS DEATH FAST (CONT. FROM 1)

"1990 marks the 200th year of Amerikkkan gulags. Due to increased repression, beatings and murders of our fellow prisoners and numerous other atrocities being committed in the name of the state, we have decided to follow the H-Blocks lead."

Perotti has been receiving aid from the IWW General Defense Committee, the Anarchist Black Cross, and various other anarchist and labour groups around the world. In response to the call for a hunger strike, the Black Cross is mobilizing its Emergency Response Network, an international appeal which initiates action world-wide

when a situation demands it. They are asking people to back up the three prisoners demands by writing, telegraphing or phoning the people listed below on Feb 14 and asking that the demands be met. Further actions may be called for. These will be listed on the anarchist hotline, 535-5731, when information comes our way. Write to: Warden Terry L. Morris, SOCF, P.O. Box 45699 Lucasville, Ohio 45699-0001, tel: (614) 259-5544. and George Wilson, Dept. of Rehabilitation and Corrections, 1050 Freeway Dr., Columbus Ohio, 43229 tel: (614) 466-6190.

BLACK RADIO

Milestone Communications Ltd. is applying to the CRTC for a license to operate a Black owned and controlled radio station in Toronto. At a certain point in the process, letters of support need to be sent to the CRTC to sway their decision. This should happen in February. For information on the proposed station, call Carl Redhead (416) 531-9991. For information on CRTC matters, phone (819) 997-0313. Your letters could help build this city's first Black FM station.

MEDIA WATCH



Bobby Wiseman, a local artist who's just put out an amazing album "In Her Dream", reports that WEA, the record label he's on, refused to allow one song to make it to press. That song was about Chile, and some dealings which involved Pepsi-Cola and the US government.

Pepsi-Cola's involvement in the Pinochet regime became clear on September 15, 1970, only a few days after the election of Salvador Allende. Allende was hated by the US for several reasons; he seemed to be reasonably fair, and actually started returning stolen land to the Mapuche Indian people. He also nationalized industries. On that day in September, Kissinger, Nixon, Helms, US attorney general John Mitchell, and Pepsi-Cola president Donald Kendall met with Don Augustin Edwards, publisher of Chile's ultra-conservative *El Mercurio* newspaper. Notes scribbled that day by CIA director Helms, later surfaced in a Senate investigation, revealed the essence of their plot: *"One in ten chance perhaps, but save Chile/ worth spending/ not concerned risks involved/ no involvement of embassy/ \$10 000 000 available, more if necessary/ full-time job — best men we have/ game plan/ make the economy scream/ 48 hours for plan of action."*

Soon afterwards, millions of dollars flowed to fascists and fascist papers in Chile, coming from all sorts of American corporations who have interests in Chile, like IT&T. And in 1973 Allende was assassinated and a military coup put the country on its knees. The substance of this meeting and its results was kicked off of the

album by Bobby Wiseman by WEA.

Canada has its own dirty deals happening. For instance in 1984, from Pearson airport here in Toronto, military aircraft parts for various fighter bombers and helicopters left for the Chilean regime. On September 7 of that year, spare parts of tanks were sent down. On November 5, suits and helmets for the Chilean police were sent. And on March 11, more tank parts were sent. Not only that, but Canadian banks loaned Chile approximately \$761 million during the period of 1980-1983. Canada was in fact the second largest investor in Chile.

Many Canadian corporations are involved. Bata is a major investor in Chile. So is Falconbridge, Noranda, Canadian Pacific, Cominco, Sparton of Canada, and RMS mining.

The story of Chile isn't a happy one and probably won't be until the people there manage to destroy the regime civilian or otherwise, and create a new social system. One interesting fact, considering WEA's reaction to some truth: before the election of Allende, EMI, also known in Canada as Capitol records, released all sorts of pop music and made big money. With Allende's election, they started releasing popular socialist folk singers, making even more money. With the overthrow, EMI dropped them all, and started releasing mindless pap again. Doubtless some of the profits went to help build more of the counter-insurgency equipment they produce for use in places like El Salvador and Chile, not to mention EMI's aid to South African apartheid.

CALENDAR

Wed, Jan. 31 Protest the Mayor's "Equality Day". Unwilling to proclaim Gay Pride Day as official, Eggleton is offering this lame alternative. Protest at Nathan Philips Square, 5pm.

Thurs. Feb 1 "The Effects of the Counter Insurgency Campaign on the Sugar Workers Union" (a forum with a speaker from the Phillipines Sugar Workers) 7:30pm, 11 Madison Ave.

Monday Feb 5 Anarchist men's anti-sexism group meets. A community-based discussion and sharing for men on personal and political sexism. 7:30pm. For location call 535-5731.

Friday Feb. 9 Anarchist Town Hall Meeting. A get-together for anti-authoritarian activists. This month's meeting will focus on re-organization for our community. 7:30pm. for location call 535-5731

Tuesday, February 15. "Marxism and Anarchism in Dialogue", with Canadian Tribune writer Kerry McCuaig and sociologist-historian Slobodan Drakolic, 7:30 p.m. in room 205, 140 St. George St. Admission \$3, or pay what you can. Presented by the Marxist Institute, so is likely to be unsympathetic and probably inaccurate. Local activists should consider injecting it with real anarchist thought rather than a sociologist's perspective.

For more info on upcoming events call the anarchist hotline, 535-5731. You can both listen to announcements of upcoming events or phone in ones that you know of, to share with other people. It's free and useful.